

Claims

- [c1] A telescoping roof rack assembly for a vehicle having a truck bed, comprising:
- a roof rack section for attachment to a roof of the vehicle, said roof rack section including a first pair of supports fixedly coupled to said roof of the vehicle, said first pair of supports being positioned substantially parallel to each other and generally along a longitudinal axis of the vehicle; and
 - a truck bed section including a second pair of supports that are telescopically coupled to said first pair of supports of said roof rack section, said truck bed section further including a pair of pillar members extending substantially downwardly from said second pair of supports, each of said pillar members having a bottom portion slidably coupled to a sidewall of the truck bed;
- wherein the telescoping roof rack assembly is moveable between a retracted position and an extended position, the telescoping roof rack assembly in said retracted position permitting attachment of an object to said roof rack section and unobstructed use of the truck bed, the telescoping roof rack assembly in said extended position extending over the truck bed and permitting attachment

of said object to at least one of said roof rack section and said truck bed section.

- [c2] The telescoping roof rack assembly of claim 1 wherein said roof rack section further includes a plurality of leg portions extending from each of said first pair of supports for attaching said roof rack section to said roof.
- [c3] The telescoping roof rack assembly of claim 2 wherein each of said first pair of supports is sized for telescopically receiving one of said second pair of supports.
- [c4] The telescoping roof rack assembly of claim 1 wherein said first pair of supports has at least one cross member extending therebetween.
- [c5] The telescoping roof rack assembly of claim 1 wherein said second pair of supports has at least one cross member extending therebetween.
- [c6] The telescoping roof rack assembly of claim 1 further comprising:
an intermediate pair of supports that are telescopically fitted between said first pair of supports and said second pair of supports, said intermediate pair of supports for increasing extension of the telescoping roof rack assembly.

[c7] The telescoping roof rack assembly of claim 6 wherein each of said first pair of supports is sized for telescopingly receiving one of said intermediate pair of supports, each of said intermediate pair of supports being sized for telescopically receiving one of said second pair of supports.

[c8] The telescoping roof rack assembly of claim 7 further comprising:
at least one supplemental cross member for attachment between at least one of said second pair of supports and said intermediate pair of supports.

[c9] The telescoping roof rack assembly of claim 1 wherein said bottom portion of each of said pair of pillar members includes a tongue protrusion for engaging a slotted rail formed within said sidewall.

[c10] A telescoping roof rack assembly for a vehicle having a truck bed, comprising:
a roof rack section for attachment to a roof of the vehicle, said roof rack section including a first pair of supports fixedly coupled to said roof of the vehicle, said first pair of supports being positioned substantially parallel to each other and along a longitudinal axis of the vehicle;
a truck bed section including a second pair of supports

that are telescopically coupled to said first pair of supports of said roof rack section, said truck bed section further including a pair of pillar members extending substantially downwardly from said second pair of supports, each of said pillar members having a bottom portion slidably coupled to one of a pair of sidewalls lining the truck bed; and

an arched cover for enclosing a space within the truck bed, said arched cover defining said space at a height substantially equal to a height of said roof, said arched cover adapted for attachment to at least one of said sidewalls lining the truck bed and said truck bed section of the telescoping roof rack assembly;

wherein the telescoping roof rack assembly is moveable between a retracted position and an extended position, the telescoping roof rack assembly in said retracted position permitting attachment of an object to said roof rack section and unobstructed use of the truck bed, the telescoping roof rack assembly in said extended position extending over the truck bed and permitting attachment of said object to at least one of said roof rack section and said truck bed section.

[c11] The telescoping roof rack assembly of claim 10 wherein said roof rack section further includes a plurality of leg portions extending from each of said first pair of sup-

ports for attaching said roof rack section to said roof.

[c12] The telescoping roof rack assembly of claim 11 wherein each of said first pair of supports is sized for telescopically receiving one of said second pair of supports.

[c13] The telescoping roof rack assembly of claim 10 wherein said first pair of supports has at least one cross member extending therebetween.

[c14] The telescoping roof rack assembly of claim 10 wherein said second pair of supports has at least one cross member extending therebetween.

[c15] The telescoping roof rack assembly of claim 10 further comprising:
an intermediate pair of supports that are telescopically fitted between said first pair of supports and said second pair of supports, said intermediate pair of supports for increasing extension of the telescoping roof rack assembly.

[c16] The telescoping roof rack assembly of claim 15 wherein each of said first pair of supports is sized for telescopically receiving one of said intermediate pair of supports, each of said intermediate pair of supports being sized for telescopically receiving one of said second pair of supports.

- [c17] The telescoping roof rack assembly of claim 16 further comprising:
at least one supplemental cross member for attachment between at least one of said second pair of supports and said intermediate pair of supports.
- [c18] A method for manufacturing a telescoping roof rack assembly for a vehicle having a truck bed, comprising:
fixedly coupling a first pair of supports to a roof of the vehicle, said first pair of supports positioned substantially parallel to each other along a longitudinal axis of the vehicle;
telescopically coupling a second pair of supports to said first pair of supports, said second pair of supports being moveable between a retracted position and an extended position, said second pair of supports in said retracted position overlapping said first pair of supports and permitting unobstructed use of the truck bed, said second pair of supports in said extended position extending over the truck bed; and
slidably coupling a pair of pillar members to a pair of sidewalls lining the truck bed.
- [c19] The method of claim 18 wherein telescopically coupling said second pair of supports to said first pair of supports comprises inserting said second pair of supports into

said first pair of supports, respectively.

[c20] The method of claim 19 wherein slidably coupling said pair of pillar members to said pair of sidewalls comprises coupling a tongue portion of each of said pillar members to a channel integrate in each of said sidewalls.